IN THE ABSTRACT

Last line of the abstract, delete "[Fig. 2]".

REMARKS

The specification, claims and abstract have been amended to conform to U.S. practice. An action on the merits of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date May 23, 2000

PENNIE & EDMONDS LLP

1667 K Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20006

(202) 496-4400